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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lt. Governor Kinder Joins with Mo. National Guard to Support the Kosovo Peacekeeping Mission

Over 200 flags donated to be flown over Kosovo and returned to Missouri schools

JEFFERSON CITY – Lt. Governor Peter Kinder today presented over 200 American and Missouri state flags to officials from the Missouri National Guard. These flags will be distributed to various bases throughout Kosovo housing Missouri's most recent National Guard deployment.

"It is my hope that these flags will serve as a constant reminder to our men and women in Kosovo of our continued gratitude and support back home in Missouri," Kinder said. "After flying in Kosovo, these flags will be sent to schools and supporters across Missouri as a gift of appreciation from our soldiers."

The deployment, nicknamed "Kosovo Force 10," is the largest deployment of Missouri National Guard soldiers since World War I. Over 1,000 Missouri soldiers are now at Camp Atterbury in Indiana training for their pending deployment to Kosovo. The troops will begin service in Kosovo this summer and are expected to be deployed until March 2009.

Lt. Governor Kinder asked members of the Missouri Senate and the Missouri House of Representatives to join him in donating an American and Missouri state flag as a token of gratitude for the service of Missouri National Guard members.

"I am thankful for the support of my friends in the General Assembly," said Kinder. "Legislators, regardless of party affiliation, have joined together in this effort to thank our men and women protecting freedom's cause overseas."

Lt. Governor Kinder serves as chairman of the Governor's Advisory Council for Veterans Affairs.

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